1336 28th St. South

Arlington, VA 22206 USA

31 May 2012

To whom it may concern:

We respectfully submit the attached manuscript “Utilizing a multi - technique, multi – taxa approach to monitoring wildlife passageways in southern Vermont”, for publication in *Oecologia Australis*. As human population and accompanying infrastructure continues to expand the field of highway mitigation for wildlife continues to evolve. We feel this study may provide useful tools in designing monitoring protocols for future wildlife passage structures. Our broad approach to monitoring has allowed us to refine effective techniques or discontinue ineffective ones and to pass on “lessons learned” from our study. This broader, landscape level approach to monitoring may aid researchers in developing study designs and to more rigorously evaluate the effectiveness of highway mitigation structures.

In this work, we have adhered, to the best of our knowledge, to the highest standards of reporting, aiming to report our methods, data, and analyses accurately and with sufficient detail for replication by others. This manuscript represents the first and only publication of the data it contains. We have not knowingly copied or paraphrased work by others and endeavored to credit all sources appropriately. All authors have contributed intellectually and materially to the manuscript. We look forward to receiving your thoughts on our manuscript.

 Recommended reviewers are:

1. Patricia Cramer, Utah State University at:

(http://www.cnr.usu.edu/htm/facstaff/memberID=830),

1. John Bissonette, Utah State University at:

(<http://www.wildlifeandroads.org/john/>),

1. Sandra Jacobson, USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station
2. Richard T.T. Forman, Harvard University at: ([http://www.gsd.harvard.edu/#/people/richard-tt-forman.html](http://www.google.com/url?q=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.gsd.harvard.edu%2F%23%2Fpeople%2Frichard-tt-forman.html&sa=D&sntz=1&usg=AFQjCNEQUxbFmopOssVo89SQNeyXI4VMCQ))

Sincerely,

Mark Bellis